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The Life in the UK test requires newcomers to know way more than the aboriginal population

The Life in the UK Test that was introduced in 2005, required for ILR (indefinite leave to remain), settlement in the UK or to gain British citizenship is causing controversy among many people living in Britain.

The purpose of the Life in the UK Test is that if a person wants a British Passport, they first have to become a British citizen and to do this they need to prove that they know a considerable amount of knowledge about the country's culture and customs.

An applicant will need to be able to show that they know about Life in the UK. They can do this by either taking the Life in the UK test or by taking an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) class and citizenship class.

The text of the official manual, 'Life in the United Kingdom' has many factual mistakes regarding laws and regulations that have changed since the introduction of the test. For example there are 54 countries that form the British Commonwealth but what happens if one country leaves it tomorrow? Should the answer reflect the actual truth as it stands on the day of the test or as it stands in the official manual; Life in the United Kingdom – A Journey to Citizenship.

Currently as it stands the correct answer for the Life in the UK Test is the one that lies within the official manual although it is not the correct answer theoretically.

An experiment was set up with five English born people. They all took the Life in the UK Test, and failed first time around. They took the test for a second time and only one person passed. For all five people to pass it took six attempts. Why? Because the questions are based on many factors that aren't relevant to everyday life, such as, what percentage of the population are Scottish.

One blogger wrote;

"The only people that seem to have the problem with the Life in the UK Test are the people that have to take it. The person has been given the privilege of becoming a citizen; they should be able to appreciate the invitation to live in the UK so they should accept the policy that accompanies it."

People that have lived in the UK for a considerable amount of time, that have children who were born in the UK are still expected to take the Life in the UK Test.

To some people the Life in the UK Test may seem really irrelevant but you can only hold a British passport if you're a British citizen and to gain citizenship you need to pass the test.